

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus for collecting user information regarding a user, the apparatus comprising: voice recognizing means for recognizing voices of the user;

dialog sentence creating means for creating a dialog sentence to exchange a dialog with the user based on a result of the voice recognition performed by said voice recognizing means; and

collecting means for collecting the user information based on the voice recognition result.

2. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising storage means for storing the user information.

3. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said dialog sentence creating means outputs the dialog sentence in the form of a text or synthesized sounds.

4. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said collecting means collects the user information based on an appearance frequency of a word

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contained in the voice recognition result.

5. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said collecting means collects the user information based on a broader term of a word contained in the voice recognition result.

6. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said collecting means counts the number of times of speeches on the same topic based on the voice recognition result, and collects the user information based on a counted value.

7. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said collecting means counts a time of speeches on the same topic based on the voice recognition result, and collects the user information based on a counted value.

8. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said collecting means counts the number of times of appearances of the same topic based on the voice recognition result, and collects the user information based on a counted value.

9. An information processing apparatus according to  
Claim 1, wherein the user information is information  
indicating interests or tastes of the user.

10. An information processing method for collecting  
user information regarding a user, the method comprising the  
steps of:

a voice recognizing step of recognizing voices of the  
user;

a dialog sentence creating step of creating a dialog  
sentence to exchange a dialog with the user based on a  
result of the voice recognition performed by said voice  
recognizing step; and

a collecting step of collecting the user information  
based on the voice recognition result.

11. A storage medium storing a program for operating a  
computer to execute information processing for collecting  
user information regarding a user, the program comprising  
the steps of:

a voice recognizing step of recognizing voices of the  
user;

a dialog sentence creating step of creating a dialog  
sentence to exchange a dialog with the user based on a  
result of the voice recognition performed by said voice

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recognizing step; and

a collecting step of collecting the user information  
based on the voice recognition result.